

TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2025

CALL TO ORDER:

President Ochs opened the Tremont Borough Council Meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. at the Tremont Borough Building.

ATTENDANCE:

Council: President William Ochs, Council Members: James Scheibley, Melody Strickler and Roger Adams.

Also attending: Mayor Gerald Fasnacht, Solicitor Shane Hobbs, Secretary-Treasurer Shea Lucas, Engineer John Poff and Code Officer Marty Sowers.

Absent: Vice-President Brian Eisenacher

** See attached sheet for a list of Citizens who were in attendance.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler, approving the January 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes. All in favor; Minutes approved.

SPECIAL GUEST: Marty Sowers, a Porter Township resident and currently our CEO, UCC Officer, and Floodplain Administrator, addressed Council with a self-introductory speech to announce his candidacy for District Judge of Magisterial Court 21-03-04 in the Republican primary this May. He is a Municipal Services Manager for Light-Heigel & Associates and for two decades has held the title of Building Code Official, Code Enforcement Officer, Zoning Officer and Floodplain Administrator for multiple boroughs and townships in the surrounding area.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Attorney Shane Hobbs

- Phil Kintzel Deed
 - Hobbs prepared a Resolution for the Quitclaim Deed for Phillip Kintzel.
 - Motion made by Scheibley, second by Adams, to Adopt Resolution 04-2025. All in favor; Resolution #04-2025 Adopted.
 - The deed is ready to be notarized. President Ochs has the Deed and will have it notarized by next month's meeting.
- Problem Properties
 - Hobbs reported that the owner of 29 Spring Street has been served, so they can now move forward with the Hearing and get an Order entered.
- Resolutions
 - Solicitor Hobbs reviewed and approved the 2025 Tax Levy Resolution (02-2025)
 - Motion made by Adams, second by Stricker, to Adopt Resolution 02-2025, a Resolution Fixing the Tax Rate for the Year 2025. All in favor; Resolution 02-2025 Adopted.
 - Solicitor Hobbs also reviewed and approved the Resolution to Increase the Commission Rate of the Borough's Elected Tax Collector (03-2025)
 - Motion made by Strickler, second by Scheibley, to Adopt Resolution 03-2025, a Resolution Increasing the Commission Rate of the Borough's Elected Tax Collector effective February 2025. All in favor; Resolution 03-2025 Adopted.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Gerald Fasnacht:

- The Mayor reminded the residents to that they have 24 hours after a storm to clear their properties and they can't shovel their snow onto the street.
- President Ochs reported that Marty is addressing the pig situation on Union Street.

PUBLIC UTILITY AND STREETS:

- Nothing to Report

PROPERTY:

- Antz replaced the fan motor in the heating unit for the Borough Office.

- Updates on burned properties
 - 16 E. Main St. – The demo work is still not complete.
 - The insurance company for the Apartment building next door called the office to ask if we are going to do anything with the “siding” that was removed during the demo of 16 E. Main, they are going to open a claim for damages if nothing is done.
 - Marty will contact Mr. Noll and the Demo Company.
 - 312 E. Main Street- Owner listed is deceased, the wife is Stephanie Wagner.
 - There is no insurance coverage on this property.
 - They are behind on taxes.
 - 314 E. Main Street - Owner lives in New Jersey.
 - Marty Sowers posted both properties to be demolished, no work has been started.
 - 22 E. Main Street – Escrow money will be released this week.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY:

- **FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT**
 - Justin Moeller reported they had 11 calls in February 2025
 - They were awarded \$13,995.04 through a State Grant for debt reduction.
- **TREMONT AMBULANCE REPORT**
 - No Report
- **ENGINEER REPORT (PROPERTY MAINTENANCE)**
 - No Report submitted from Marty Sowers
 - Strickler said that he should be submitting monthly reports and that we pay Light-Heigel a lot of money so we need to see that something is being done.
 - President Ochs reported that Marty is addressing the pig situation on Union Street.
 - President Ochs also said that Marty has been working on the 5 problem properties and that the Solicitor reports of them every month.
 - Scheibley said that there are other issues that need to be addressed besides the problem properties. People are parking on the yellow way too close to the intersections, especially at the property aside of Pribilla’s (38 Spring Street) with all the vehicles and the fence, you can’t see to pull out from the alley.

RECREATION & EDUCATION:

- John Poff Report
 - Playground Project
 - He presented Council with the Bid Package for the Playground Project – the Bids are due at the April Meeting.
 - We are waiting on a letter from DCNR giving the approval to bid.
 - It has to be Competitive Bidding since we did not get 3 written quotes.
 - Scheibley said he knows of two local companies that are interested in this project.
 - The Streets Department will be doing the demo work at the playground. We get credit for Scheibley’s and Kohr’s hours.
 - Stormwater Grant
 - They are going to try to get funding to cover the Engineer Services.

TREASURER REPORT:

- Treasurer Report for January 2025 :

Account	Type	Name	Memo/Description	Income	Expense
MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT	Expense	MID PENN BANK	Payment to Note A Obligation Loan		2,288.70
	Expense	AMTRUST NORTH AMERICA	Worker Comp Premium		5,110.00
	Check	L. SAMUEL DEEGAN C.P.A., PA	Auditor Services		5,700.00
	Expense	ADOBE	Computer Program Subscription		42.38
	Check	LIGHT-HEIGEL & ASSOCIATES, INC	Property Maintenance & Code Enforcement		409.50
	Check	PSAB U/C PLAN	Quarterly U/C		397.74
	Deposit	COUNTY OF SCHUYLKILL	Delinquent Road & School Taxes	876.64	
	Check	BOROUGH OF SCHUYLKILL HAVEN	Rave Alert System		1,000.00
	Check	TALLMAN SUPPLY COMPANY	Garage Supplies		35.88
	Check	Shank Door Company	Garage Door Repair		813.20
	Expense	AMAZON	Toner & Paper for BRIC DTA Flyers		296.87
	Expense	AMAZON	Light for Bell Tower at TACC Bldg		130.78
	Expense	TEMU	Building Supplies		22.90
	Expense	GO DADDY.COM	(Old) Website Service		127.08
	Expense	TEVIS ENERGY	Heating Oil - TACC Bldg		2,129.62
	Expense	TEVIS ENERGY	Heating Oil -Garage		710.20
	Expense	INTUIT QUICKBOOKS	Computer Program Subscription		328.60
	Check	GEORGE HOVEROCKER	Reimbursement for Supplies		49.46
	Check	BERKHEIMER	EIT/LST Commissions		770.38
	Check	EHRLICH	Pest Control		123.62
	Deposit	MONTHLY DEPOSITS	ATM	16061.75	
	Interest	MID PENN BANK	Interest Credit - Interest	10.65	
TOTAL - MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT				\$ 16,949.04	\$ 20,486.91
PAYROLL		TOTAL - PAYROLL COST			\$ 20,927.04
SWIMMING POOL ACCT	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.08	
TOTAL - SWIMMING POOL ACCT				\$ 0.08	\$ -
NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	0.01	
TOTAL - NEW EQUIPT FUND ACCT				\$ 0.01	
DCNR PLAYGROUND ACCT	Check	LIGHT-HEIGEL & ASSOCIATES, INC	Engineer Services		6,785.50
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	1.04	
TOTAL - DCNR PLAYGROUND ACCT				\$ 1.04	\$ 6,785.50
PLGIT GENERAL ACCT	Deposit	BERKHEIMER	EIT/LST Disbursements	5,600.87	
	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	1,155.59	
TOTAL -PLGIT GENERAL ACCT				\$ 6,756.46	\$ -
FIRE DEPT FUND	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	181.73	
TOTAL -FIRE DEPT. FUND ACCT				\$ 181.73	\$ -
HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS)	Interest	INTEREST	Interest Credit - Interest	12.50	
TOTAL - HIGHWAY AID FUND (LIQUID FUELS ACCT)				\$ 12.50	\$ -

Balances

MID PENN GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$267,698.96
PLGIT GENERAL ACCOUNT	\$319,975.71
SWIMMING POOL ACCOUNT	\$4,513.38
NEW EQUIPMENT FUND ACCT	\$679.96
ARPA FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS ACCT	\$0.39
DCNR PLAYGROUND PROJECT ACCT	\$40,926.16
PLGIT FIRE DEPT FUND ACCT	\$55,462.26
PLGIT HIGHWAY AID ACCOUNT	\$3,700.64

Fire Escrow Funds

Escrow Amount Received	for: 18 E. Main (Randazzo Pizza)	\$44,500.00
Escrow Amount Paid Out	to: ARTHUR "PAT" AUNGST INC	\$44,500.00
Escrow Amount Received	for: 22 E. Main (Dee's Flowers)	\$43,200.00
Escrow Amount Paid Out	Pending	Pending
Escrow Amount Received	for: 16 E. Main (Barry Noll)	\$7,907.86
Escrow Amount Paid Out	-----	\$0.00

ENDING BALANCE OF ALL ACCOUNTS AS OF December 31, 2024= \$692,957.46

- Motion made by Adams, second by Strickler approving the January 2025 Treasurer Report. All in favor, Minutes approved.

FINANCE:

- Fire Relief Allocation has not been released yet. The AG-385 Report that was filed in March 2024 can not be accessed through the reporting portal. The Auditor General's Office sent the secretary a pdf form that the Mayor has to sign tonight and will be submitted tomorrow.

OLD BUSINESS:

- We are waiting for a response from SCMA to confirm meeting date
- The Exxon Mobil Fuel Account has been set up

NEW BUSINESS:

- President Ochs recommended getting an outside company to shred the outdated Borough Documents and Tax Records.
- Under Act 90 of 2011, The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry published the new municipal bidding thresholds effective January 1, 2025. the municipal bidding thresholds are updated based on the annual inflation adjustment (Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers). The new bidding thresholds for boroughs will be as follows:
 - Purchases and contracts below \$12,900 require no formal bidding or written/telephonic quotations.
 - Purchases and contracts between \$12,900 and \$23,800 require three written/telephonic quotations.
 - Purchases and contracts over \$23,800 require formal bidding.
- Scheibley reported that as soon as we get approval from the County, we will have to do a Resolution Adopting The 2025 Schuylkill County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. He requested a Motion be made tonight to act upon this as soon as we get approval.
 - Motion made by Scheibley, second by Adams to Adopt The 2025 Schuylkill County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution upon County approval and Solicitor review. All in favor, Minutes approved.
- Adams reported that all the residents received the FEMA Flyers. Denise Krammes helped him hand out the flyers.
 - Scheibley reported that FEMA will be holding a Town Hall meeting here in March. The secretary will get the dates that are available.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION:

- Butch Kender
 - 1) In reference to the FEMA Flyer; What are they looking for? Answers? Didn't the Army Corps of Engineers do that?
 - Scheibley: We are looking to get money and this is one of the things we must do in order to qualify for funding.
 - 2) What doors at the Library did you get quotes for?
 - Scheibley: The back two doors towards the Magistrate's Office.
 - 3) The Dollar Store sidewalk is not being shoveled again.
 - Mayor Fasnacht: Marty is aware of it.
- Kathleen Krammes
 - 1) Did you find anyone to open the drain pipe on North Street?
 - Scheibley: No, Aungst can only do so far.
- Justin Moeller
 - 1) The next time anyone talks to Marty Sowers, ask him about 17 Union Street.

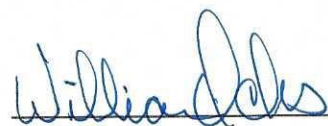
ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion made by Strickler, second by Adams, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m.; All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

ATTEST:




PRESIDENT:



TREMONT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

1. <i>Justin Meller</i>	19.
2. <i>Butch Kendee</i>	20.
3. <i>Sherry Hunteringer</i>	21.
4. <i>Kathy Adams</i>	22.
5. <i>Deane Sowers</i>	23.
6. <i>Marty Sowers</i>	24.
7. <i>Debra Sowers</i>	25.
8. <i>Kathleen Darnice</i>	26.
9. <i>Samantha Zerke</i>	27.
10. <i>Michael Zerke JR.</i>	28.
11.	29.
12.	30.
13.	31.
14.	32.
15.	33.
16.	34.
17.	35.
18.	36.